

# Biography Noble Wray



Chief Noble Wray was with the Madison Police Department for almost 28 years, retiring in 2013. He was promoted through the ranks and was appointed Chief of Police of the City of Madison in 2004. Before becoming Chief, Chief Wray received Life Saving and Outstanding Service Awards as a member of the Madison Police Department.

Chief Wray has been a very visible and active member of the Madison Police Department throughout his career. He has led the Madison Police Department with an emphasis on building trust both inside and outside of the organization; he refers to it as trust-based policing. It is a recognition that policing is a challenging profession, but it is our relationships based on trust and shared values that help us keep our communities safe and maintain police legitimacy. Wray learned this early on in his career, and in 1993 he was invited to speak on the nationally televised Today show as a law enforcement representative to discuss the impact of the “drug war” on communities across the United States.

Wray has also excelled as a nationally recognized consultant for law enforcement organizations such as the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) and the Police Foundation in the areas of problem solving, community policing and trust-based policing. He has also served on staff from 1997 to 2004 at the Police Leadership Institute at the University of Lowell Massachusetts for a course he developed for police managers called “Problem Solving Lessons Learned.” Chief Wray continues to be a national presenter on these topics. In 2011 Chief Wray was asked to present on these topics by the International Conference on Innovative Solutions for Law Enforcement and US Department of Justice’s COPS Office annual conference. He is also a certified trainer/consultant for both Steven Covey and COPS Office Fair and Impartial Policing.

Chief Wray has been very active serving on a number of non-profit Boards in the Madison area. He just completed his tenure as Board President for the United Way of Dane County. He has also served on numerous Boards and Commissions at the County and State level. In 2007 Chief Wray was asked by Wisconsin’s Governor James Doyle to co-chair the State Commission on Reducing Racial Disparity in the Criminal Justice System. The Governor was nationally recognized by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency for the Commission’s Report in October 2008.

## **Some of his Awards and Recognitions:**

1996 City of Madison Affirmative Action Award  
2007 Madison Community Juneteenth “UnSung” Hero Award  
2008 Madison Magazine Person of the Year  
2008 Herman Goldstein Finalist for Excellence in Problem Oriented Policing  
2010 Fellowship Award by the International Association of Chiefs and Target Corporation 2011 UW Milwaukee Alumnus of the Year – School of Social Welfare  
2012 Shorewood School’s Tradition of Excellence as Community Leader in Public Safety Award (an Award also received by US Supreme Court Justice William H. Rehnquist) 2012 Public Service Peace and Dialogue Award from the International Niagara Foundation

Chief Wray was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1960. He has lived in Wisconsin most of his life and has been married for over 30 years with two adult children. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is a graduate of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Executive Leadership Course for future police leaders.

